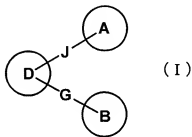


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A compound of formula (I):



wherein ring A, ring B, and ring D each independently represents a cyclic group which may be substituted;

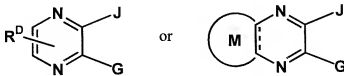
J represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 8 atoms in its main chain; and

G represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 4 atoms in its main chain;

wherein



is



wherein  $R^D$  represents a substituent of ring D (1) hydrogen, (2)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (3)  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl, (4)  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8)  $-CONR^7R^8$ , (9)  $-COOR^9$ , (10)

Cyc1 or (11) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, (b) -COOR<sup>9</sup>, (c) -OR<sup>10</sup>, (d) -NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1;

R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6) -OR<sup>13</sup> or (7) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -OR<sup>13</sup>, (b) -NR<sup>14</sup>R<sup>15</sup>, (c) -NR<sup>16</sup>COR<sup>17</sup>, (d) halogen, (e) CF<sub>3</sub>, and (f) Cyc2; or

R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R<sup>13</sup> to R<sup>17</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R<sup>9</sup> to R<sup>12</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C<sub>3-15</sub> monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R<sup>18</sup>,

R<sup>18</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>19</sup>, (10) -SR<sup>20</sup>, (11) -NR<sup>21</sup>R<sup>22</sup>,

(12) -COR<sup>23</sup>, (13) -COOR<sup>24</sup>, (14) -NR<sup>25</sup>COR<sup>26</sup>, (15) -CONR<sup>27</sup>R<sup>28</sup>, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR<sup>19</sup>, (g) -SR<sup>20</sup>, (h) -NR<sup>21</sup>R<sup>22</sup>, (i) -COR<sup>23</sup>, (j) -COOR<sup>24</sup>, (k) -NR<sup>25</sup>COR<sup>26</sup>, (l) -CONR<sup>27</sup>R<sup>28</sup>, and (m) Cyc2;

R<sup>19</sup> to R<sup>28</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R<sup>29</sup>,

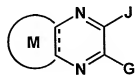
R<sup>29</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) -OR<sup>100</sup>;

R<sup>100</sup> represents C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl;

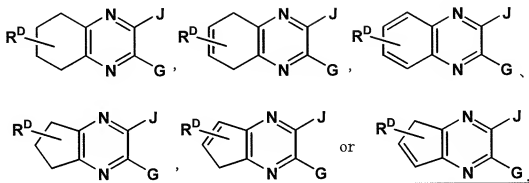
---- represents a single bond or a double bond; and

M represents a 3- to 11-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cyclic group which may be substituted;

wherein



is



ring A is a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring, a benzodioxane ring, a cyclopropane ring, a cyclopentane ring, a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a tetrahydrofuran ring, a piperidine ring or a morpholine ring which may be substituted with (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>31</sup>, (10) -NR<sup>32</sup>R<sup>33</sup>, (11) -NR<sup>34</sup>COR<sup>35</sup>, (12) Cyc3, or (13) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR<sup>31</sup>, (g) -NR<sup>32</sup>COR<sup>33</sup>, (h) -NR<sup>34</sup>COR<sup>35</sup>, and (i) Cyc3;

R<sup>31</sup> to R<sup>35</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b) -OR<sup>36</sup> and (c) -NR<sup>37</sup>R<sup>38</sup>,

R<sup>36</sup> to R<sup>38</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) -OR<sup>39</sup>, or (4) -NR<sup>40</sup>R<sup>41</sup>,

R<sup>39</sup> to R<sup>41</sup> each independently represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl;

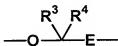
Cyc3 represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B is a benzene ring, a pyridine ring, a thiophene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isoxazole ring, a thiazole ring, a benzothiophene ring, an imidazole ring or a furan ring which may be substituted with (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>42</sup>, (10) -NR<sup>43</sup>R<sup>44</sup>, (11) -SR<sup>101</sup>, (12) -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>102</sup>, (13) -COR<sup>103</sup>, (14) -COOR<sup>104</sup>, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -COOR<sup>104</sup>, (b) -NR<sup>105</sup>COR<sup>106</sup>, and (c) Cyc2;

R<sup>42</sup> to R<sup>44</sup> and R<sup>101</sup> to R<sup>106</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) -COR<sup>107</sup>, or (5) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

R<sup>107</sup> represents C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>2-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring which may be substituted or a 3 to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) which may be substituted;

J is



wherein R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> each independently represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl; and

E represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain; and

G is -NR<sup>T1</sup>-SO<sub>2</sub>-

wherein  $R^{T1}$  represents hydrogen,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl ~~which may be substituted~~,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl ~~which may be substituted~~,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl ~~which may be substituted~~ or a 3- to 8-membered cyclic group ~~which may be substituted~~;

or a salt thereof.

Claims 2-24. (canceled).

25. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  each independently represents hydrogen or methyl.

26. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein E is a bond.

27. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein E is a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain.

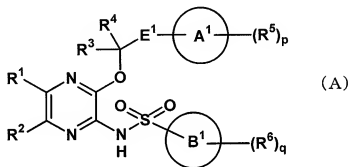
28. (original): The compound according to claim 27, wherein E is  $C_{1-4}$  alkylene or  $C_{1-3}$  alkyleneoxy.

29. (original): The compound according to claim 28, wherein E is methylene or methylenoxy.

Claims 30-31. (canceled).

32. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein G is  
-NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-.

33. (currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is  
a compound of formula (A):



wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8) -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, (9) -COOR<sup>9</sup>, (10) Cyc1 or (11) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, (b) -COOR<sup>9</sup>, (c) -OR<sup>10</sup>, (d) -NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1; or

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are taken together to represent C<sub>3-4</sub> alkylene, -CH=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH=CH-, -CH=CH-CH=CH- or -CH=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-, wherein the carbocyclic ring to be formed may be substituted with C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy, halogen, cyano, nitro or hydroxyl, wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6) -OR<sup>13</sup> or (7) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -OR<sup>13</sup>, (b) -NR<sup>14</sup>R<sup>15</sup>, (c) -NR<sup>16</sup>COR<sup>17</sup>, (d) halogen, (e) CF<sub>3</sub>, and (f) Cyc2; or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an

other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R<sup>13</sup> to R<sup>17</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R<sup>9</sup> to R<sup>12</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C<sub>3-15</sub> monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R<sup>18</sup>;

R<sup>18</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>19</sup>, (10) -SR<sup>20</sup>, (11) -NR<sup>21</sup>R<sup>22</sup>, (12) -COR<sup>23</sup>, (13) -COOR<sup>24</sup>, (14) -NR<sup>25</sup>COR<sup>26</sup>, (15) -CONR<sup>27</sup>R<sup>28</sup>, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR<sup>19</sup>, (g) -SR<sup>20</sup>, (h) -NR<sup>21</sup>R<sup>22</sup>, (i) -COR<sup>23</sup>, (j) -COOR<sup>24</sup>, (k) -NR<sup>25</sup>COR<sup>26</sup>, (l) -CONR<sup>27</sup>R<sup>28</sup>, and (m) Cyc2;

R<sup>19</sup> to R<sup>28</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R<sup>29</sup>;

R<sup>29</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) -OR<sup>100</sup>;



$R^{100}$  represents  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl;

$R^3$  and  $R^4$  each independently represents hydrogen or  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl;

$E^1$  represents a bond or  $C_{1-6}$  alkylene, wherein a carbon atom in the alkylene group may be substituted with oxygen, sulfur, or  $-NR^{30}-$ ;

$R^{30}$  represents (1)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (2)  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl, (3)  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, (4) phenyl, or (5)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl substituted with phenyl;

ring  $A^1$  is a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring, a benzodioxane ring, a cyclopropane ring, a cyclopentane ring, a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a tetrahydrofuran ring, a piperidine ring or a morpholine ring represents a  $C_{3-15}$  monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3 to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

$R^5$  represents (1)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (2)  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl, (3)  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9)  $-OR^{31}$ , (10)  $-NR^{32}R^{33}$ , (11)  $-NR^{34}COR^{35}$ , (12) Cyc3, or (13)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl or  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f)  $-OR^{31}$ , (g)  $-NR^{32}COR^{33}$ , (h)  $-NR^{34}COR^{35}$ , and (i) Cyc3;

$R^{31}$  to  $R^{35}$  each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (3)  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl, (4)  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl or  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b)  $-OR^{36}$  and (c)  $-NR^{37}R^{38}$ ;

$R^{36}$  to  $R^{38}$  each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (3)  $-OR^{39}$ , or (4)  $-NR^{40}R^{41}$ ;

$R^{39}$  to  $R^{41}$  each independently represents hydrogen or  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl;

Cyc3 represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B<sup>1</sup> is a benzene ring, a pyridine ring, a thiophene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isoxazole ring, a thiazole ring, a benzothiophene ring, an imidazole ring or a furan ring represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

R<sup>6</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>42</sup>, (10) -NR<sup>43</sup>R<sup>44</sup>, (11) -SR<sup>101</sup>, (12) -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>102</sup>, (13) -COR<sup>103</sup>, (14) -COOR<sup>104</sup>, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -COOR<sup>104</sup>, (b) -NR<sup>105</sup>COR<sup>106</sup>, and (c) Cyc2;

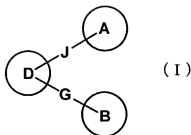
R<sup>42</sup> to R<sup>44</sup> and R<sup>101</sup> to R<sup>106</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) -COR<sup>107</sup>, or (5) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

R<sup>107</sup> represents C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl; and

p and q each independently represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 5.

34. (withdrawn): A prodrug for the compound according to claim 1.

35. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of formula (I):



wherein ring A, ring B, and ring D each independently represents a cyclic group which may be substituted;

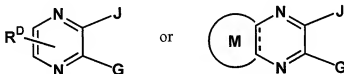
J represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 8 atoms in its main chain; and

G represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 4 atoms in its main chain;

wherein



is



wherein  $R^D$  represents (1) hydrogen, (2)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (3)  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl, (4)  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8)  $-CONR^7R^8$ , (9)  $-COOR^9$ , (10) Cyc1 or (11)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a)  $-CONR^7R^8$ , (b)  $-COOR^9$ , (c)  $-OR^{10}$ , (d)  $-NR^{11}R^{12}$ , (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1;

$R^7$  and  $R^8$  each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, (3)  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl, (4)  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6)  $-OR^{13}$  or (7)  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl or  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a)  $-OR^{13}$ , (b)  $-NR^{14}R^{15}$ , (c)  $-NR^{16}COR^{17}$ , (d) halogen, (e)  $CF_3$ , and (f) Cyc2; or

R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R<sup>13</sup> to R<sup>17</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R<sup>9</sup> to R<sup>12</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C<sub>3-15</sub> monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R<sup>18</sup>;

R<sup>18</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>19</sup>, (10) -SR<sup>20</sup>, (11) -NR<sup>21</sup>R<sup>22</sup>, (12) -COR<sup>23</sup>, (13) -COOR<sup>24</sup>, (14) -NR<sup>25</sup>COR<sup>26</sup>, (15) -CONR<sup>27</sup>R<sup>28</sup>, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR<sup>19</sup>, (g) -SR<sup>20</sup>, (h) -NR<sup>21</sup>R<sup>22</sup>, (i) -COR<sup>23</sup>, (j) -COOR<sup>24</sup>, (k) -NR<sup>25</sup>COR<sup>26</sup>, (l) -CONR<sup>27</sup>R<sup>28</sup>, and (m) Cyc2;

R<sup>19</sup> to R<sup>28</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R<sup>29</sup>;

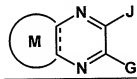
R<sup>29</sup> represents (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) -OR<sup>100</sup>.

R<sup>100</sup> represents C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl a substituent of ring D;

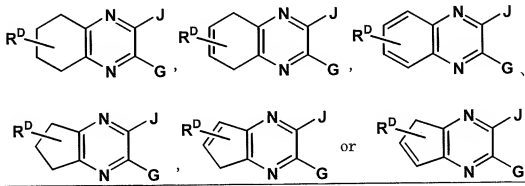
--- represents a single bond or a double bond; and

M represents a 3- to 11-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cyclic group which may be substituted;

wherein



is



ring A is a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring, a benzodioxane ring, a cyclopropane ring, a cyclopentane ring, a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a tetrahydrofuran ring, a piperidine ring or a morpholine ring which may be substituted with (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro,

(7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>31</sup>, (10) -NR<sup>32</sup>R<sup>33</sup>, (11) -NR<sup>34</sup>COR<sup>35</sup>, (12) Cyc3, or (13) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR<sup>31</sup>, (g) -NR<sup>32</sup>COR<sup>33</sup>, (h) -NR<sup>34</sup>COR<sup>35</sup>, and (i) Cyc3;

R<sup>31</sup> to R<sup>35</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (4) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b) -OR<sup>36</sup> and (c) -NR<sup>37</sup>R<sup>38</sup>;

R<sup>36</sup> to R<sup>38</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) -OR<sup>39</sup>, or (4) -NR<sup>40</sup>R<sup>41</sup>;

R<sup>39</sup> to R<sup>41</sup> each independently represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl;

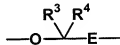
Cyc3 represents a C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B is a benzene ring, a pyridine ring, a thiophene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isoxazole ring, a thiazole ring, a benzothiophene ring, an imidazole ring or a furan ring which may be substituted with (1) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (2) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, (3) C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR<sup>42</sup>, (10) -NR<sup>43</sup>R<sup>44</sup>, (11) -SR<sup>101</sup>, (12) -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>102</sup>, (13) -COR<sup>103</sup>, (14) -COOR<sup>104</sup>, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -COOR<sup>104</sup>, (b) -NR<sup>105</sup>COR<sup>106</sup>, and (c) Cyc2;

R<sup>42</sup> to R<sup>44</sup> and R<sup>101</sup> to R<sup>106</sup> each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) -COR<sup>107</sup>, or (5) C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

~~R<sup>107</sup> represents C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-8</sub> monocyclic carbocyclic ring which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) which may be substituted;~~

J is



wherein R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> each independently represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl; and

E represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain;

G is -NR<sup>T1</sup>-SO<sub>2</sub>-

wherein R<sup>T1</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl ~~which may be substituted~~, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl ~~which may be substituted~~, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl ~~which may be substituted~~ or a 3- to 8-membered cyclic group ~~which may be substituted~~;

or a salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 36-43. (canceled).

44. (withdrawn): A method for treating CCR4-mediated diseases in a mammal, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

Claims 45-49. (canceled).